Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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LOMATIUM GEYERI
GEYER'S BISCUITROOT

Geyer's Biscuitroot is a glabrous perennial with 1-3 stems that are 15-40 cm tall, and arise from a tuberous-thickened taproot that is up to 4 cm in diameter. Leaves are 2-3 times pinnately divided into narrow ultimate segments and are borne on the lower half of the stem or sometimes only at the base. The smallest flower clusters consist of a number of stalked flowers are arranged at the ends of multiple stalks in an open, umbrella-like infloresence. The small, leaf-like bracts immediately below the flower clusters are 2-3 mm long. The small white flowers have 5 separate petals attached on top of the ovary. The glabrous fruits are compressed, elliptic in outline, and 7-12 mm long. Flowering end of March-May, fruiting in late May-early June.

Distinguished from glabrous species of LOMATIUM with thickened taproots in northwestern Montana by a combination of white flowers, fruits 7-12 mm long on 3-5 mm stalks, height mostly less than 30 cm tall, and narrow bracts. A hand lens and technical key are needed for positive identification.